

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:S/S:PTARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 247663

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 09431 ACTION SECSTATE
28 SEP 78.

QUOTE: S E C R E T TEHRAN 09431

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PINS, PINT, IR, US

SUBJ: IRANIAN PERMREP TO UNITED NATIONS URGES USG

ROLE IN IRANIAN CRISIS

REF: (A) STATE 245918, (B) STATE 234445

1. DEPT WILL RECOGNIZE SUBSTANCE OF HOVEYDA
CONVERSATION WITH LEONARD AS RECRUDESCENCE OF VITRIOL
WHICH HAS ENVENOMED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ZAHEDI AND
HOVEYDA'S BROTHER AMIR ABBASS. COUNTERPART OF THIS

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COMMENTARY WAS ZAHEDI CONVERSATION WITH ACTING
SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER REPORTED REF B IN WHICH ZAHEDI
LASHED OUT AT HOVEYDA.

2. AS FOR SUBSTANCE OF HOVEYDA'S SUGGESTIONS, DEPT
WILL ALSO HAVE DESCERNED, FROM OTHER REPORTING, THAT
SHAH IS INDEED ALREADY EMBARKED ON PROGRAM VERY MUCH

ALONG LINES OF HOVEYDA'S RECOMMENDATIONS. AT CURRENT MOMENT, HE IS, FOR TACTICAL REASONS, ATTRIBUTING ALL THESE ACTIONS TO SHARIF-EMAMI RATHER THAN TO HIMSELF. HE HAS LARGELY RECOVERED FROM THE "IMMOBILISM" WITH WHICH HOVEYDA HAS ACCURATELY CHARACTERIZED HIS MOOD OF TWO WEEKS AGO. HE HAS ASSURED ME HE HAS NO RPT NO INTENTION OF STEPPING DOWN IN FAVOR OF THE CROWN PRINCE, A REGENCY, OR ANYONE ELSE.

3. HOVEYDA MAY BE CORRECT IN SAYING THAT SHARIF-EMAMI IS AN IMPERFECT IMPLEMENT FOR CARRYING OUT A PROGRAM TO PROPITIATE THE ISLAMIC CLERGY, BUT HE IS BETTER THAN ANY OTHER POLITICAL FIGURE AVAILABLE. HE IS ALSO CORRECT IN SAYING THAT THE SHAH MUST CRACK DOWN ON THE ROYAL FAMILY; BUT HE HAS ALREADY PUBLICLY DONE SO--TO INCLUDE HOVEYDA'S QUONDAM BOSS, PRINCESS ASHRAF.

4. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT AMIR ABBASS HOVEYDA, WHO IS CURRENTLY LIVING MODESTLY WITH HIS MOTHER, CONTINUES TO PASS HIS VIEWS TO THE SHAH, VERY LARGELY THROUGH THE EMPRESS WHO KEEPS IN TOUCH WITH HIM THROUGH DAILY TELEPHONE CALLS. I EXPECT TO PAY HIM A VISIT NEXT WEEK TO SAMPLE HIS MOOD AND TO FIND OUT HIS FUTURE PLANS. LAST TIME I TALKED WITH HIM, HE SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY TRY TO REVIVE HIS IRAN NOVIN PARTY,
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BUT IN THE HANDS OF YOUNGER MEN WHILE HE STAYED IN THE BACKGROUND. HE SAID HE HAD NO DESIRE TO GO ABROAD. THE ATTACK ON ZAHEDI COULD MEAN THAT TH HAS CHANGED HIS MIND AND WANTS THE WASHINGTON EMBASSY.

5. AS FOR THE CIA STUDY, I, TOO, WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT IF IT EXISTS.

6. FINALLY, WITH RESPECT TO HOVEYDA'S SUGGESTION FOR A DISCUSSION OF IRAN WITH THE SOVIETS, NOTHING COULD BE BETTER CALCULATED TO START THE RUMOR THAT WE AND THE SOVIETS HAVE DECIDED TO "DIVIDE UP" IRAN. WE COULD COUNT ON THE SOVIETS TO LEAK THE FACT OF ANY SUCH DISCUSSION TO THE IRANIANS AND TO CREATE ALL SORTS OF MISCHIEF HERE. MOREOVER, MY SOVIET COLLEAGUE HAS GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO AVOID ANY DISCUSSION OF RECENT IRANIAN EVENTS WITH ME AND I FEEL THAT IS THE BEST WAY TO KEEP THINGS AT THIS TIME.

7. HAVING SAID ALL FOREGOING, I WOULD BE INTERESTED TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF ANY FURTHER CONVERSATIONS EITHER ZAHEDI OR HOVEYDA HAVE WITH U.S. OFFICIALS

ON SUBJECT OF INTERNAL IRANIAN POLITICAS BECAUSE THEY
HELP US OBTAIN BETTER FOCUS ON ALL PRESSURES WHICH ARE
CURRENTLY BEING CONCENTRATED ON THE SHAH.

8. REQUEST DEPT PASS USUN.
SULLIVAN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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